

September 27, 2007

The Calvin Ball Bulletin

A bulletin to keep you and your neighbors informed of current news and happenings in our community. If you do not get this bulletin directly, feel free to email me at cball@howardcountymd.gov and I will be sure to get you on the list.

For more District 2 News go to our website at:
www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_DistrictTwo.htm

We Want To Hear From You

The link below will navigate you to a list of meetings open to the public. If you have specific questions please call the contact number listed for that meeting.

http://www.co.ho.md.us/News/HCG_Portal_PublicMeetings.htm

How Can You Participate in Howard County Government?

This is your chance to stay informed and involved! Your comments are welcome as the County Council reviews legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email or fax. All legislative public hearings will take place in the Banneker Room of the George Howard Building. Click the following link for the Council's calendar of meetings
http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CC_Legislative_CouncilCalendar.htm

View the Council's Current Legislation and Stay Informed

The County Council is responsible for adopting the laws of the County. The legislative process generally follows a monthly cycle. To view legislation under consideration by the Council, please click on

the following link

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/Legislative_Pending.htm

The Columbia Association Launched a New Community Calendar

CA in conjunction with the Villages of Columbia, announce the launch of a new website, www.ColumbiaCalendar.org. This new website has been created to be a resource for the residents of Columbia to find out what is going on in their community. At this time the website is packed with events sponsored by the Columbia Association and the Villages.

The Oakland Mills calendar can be found at

http://oaklandmills.columbiavillages.org/OMCA_Events_Programs.htm

The Long Reach calendar can be found at

http://www.columbiacalendar.org:8080/View.html?calendar_id=8

Homeowners Tax Credit and Renters Tax Credit Applications- Now Available!

The 2007 Homeowners Tax Credit and Renters Tax Credit applications are available at:

<http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/taxcredits.html>

There is no charge to apply and nothing to lose by doing so.

Boards and Commissions Vacancies

Persons interested in applying for a Board or Commission are invited to view the following link

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/PortalServices/HC_BoardsandCommissions.htm

Who's Digging in Your Community?

Many of our constituents have brought to our attention issues concerning utility contractors digging in their community. Many of these contractors are sub-contractors of major utility companies. To determine the name of the contractor and the utility company they are representing, please go to www.missutility.net . This website is very informative and frequently updated with up-to-the-minute information on each and every project involving excavation around utilities.

For additional information, please call Miss Utility at **(410) 712-0056**

Free Vehicle Identification Etching! - Sponsored by the Howard County Police Department

Engraving your car's unique vehicle identification number on all of the major pieces of glass has proven to be a highly effective deterrent and it assists in returning stolen vehicles to the rightful owner. In addition to the VIN Etching, individuals may register in the Watch Your Car Program. Watch Your Car Program is a national vehicle theft prevention program aimed at deterring auto theft. If you need more information, contact Janet Stabile, Vehicle Theft Prevention Specialist at HCPD at **410-313-3337**. Car "Clubs" will be distributed as available.

Oakland Mills Community Police Office/ Thurs. Sept. 27, 3:30 – 6:30 p.m./ 5851 Robert Oliver Place, The Other Barn, Columbia, MD 21045/ 410-730-4610

School Crossing Guards Needed

With the start of the new school year, the Howard County Police Department is looking for School Crossing Guards to help our children safely cross intersections near schools in Howard County. Our Crossing Guards are reliable and responsible adults who interact well with children and are committed to their safety. We want YOU because we currently have openings at your child's school.

Interested? Please click the following link for additional information.
<http://www.howardcountymd.gov/Police/Docs/schoolcrossingguards.pdf>

Or you may contact **Ms. Carol Bess**, School Crossing Guard Supervisor, at **410-313-4754**.

"Come Home to Howard County" Housing Fair- September 29th!

The County's next "Come Home to Howard County" Housing Fair is an opportunity for residents to meet with a full range of exhibitors and participate in a series of educational sessions focused on renting, buying and improving your home. Exhibitors include real estate professionals, mortgage lenders, title companies, rental management companies, developers, governmental partners and area non-profit organizations. The fair will also feature guided bus tours of Howard County neighborhoods targeting specific demographic groups: young professionals, growing families and seniors. Giveaways will be given out throughout the day. The event is free and open to the public.

Wilde Lake High School, 5460 Trumpeter Road, Columbia / **10 am to 2 pm** / Contact: Department of Housing & Community Development, **(410) 313-6318**

BRAC- Get Involved!

The Howard County BRAC Task Force has now moved to into phase II of its work. Phase II will focus on the impact of overall Fort Meade growth on 6 specific areas in Howard County. They are: Work Force Development, Transportation, Education, Infrastructure, Work Force Housing and Health and Human Services. Residents and business persons of Howard County are invited to participate in the work of the Task Force during this phase. If you are interested, please contact the Executive Director of the HC BRAC Office at kmenser@howardcountymd.gov

The next Howard County BRAC Task Force Meeting will be on **Wednesday, October 24, 2007** from **7:00 PM – 9:00 PM**. This meeting will be held in **the Tyson Room of the George Howard Building**. These meetings will start with a 15 minute update, given by Executive Director Kent Menser, on BRAC actions related to Howard County. The remainder of the time will be devoted to discussion of ideas, concerns and recommendations raised by the attendees. For any questions on meetings, call Kent Menser at 410-313-6521.

For more information on BRAC please visit
http://www.co.ho.md.us/HCG_ExecutiveBRAC.htm

Community Advisory Council Seeks At-large Members

The Community Advisory Council (CAC) to the Board of Education is seeking at-large members for the 2007-2008 school year. The CAC is a group of citizens and representatives from local PTAs that serves in an advisory capacity to the elected school board. The CAC sponsors educational programming for members and provides them with the opportunity to study and have input into curriculum, education policy, redistricting and budget.

The committee generally meets at **7:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of every month** in the Board Room at the Department of Education in Ellicott City. At-large members serve a two-year term. **For more information, contact the Public Information Office at 410-313-6682.**

Howard County Drug Free Programs- NCAA Certified Substance Abuse Education

This free NCAA Certified Substance Abuse Education Program for parents, teen athletes and coaches, will be presented by Michael Gimbel, Director of Substance Abuse Education at Sheppard Pratt Health System. It will address the short and long term physical and psychological effects of anabolic steroids and other performance enhancing substances, as well as the impact of dietary supplements and drug testing procedures. The illegal use of steroids and

supplements by professional sports stars (baseball, biking, wrestling, etc.) are in the news daily. Powered by Me is a program of St. Joseph's Medical Center. Michael Gimbel is speaker for Powered by Me and also a 14 time marathon runner - completing the Boston Marathon 6 times.

Powered by Me: Playing Safe, Fair & Sober/ **Thursday, Oct. 4, 7-8:30 PM/ The Jim Rouse Theater, Wilde Lake High School**

Howard County Fire Expo- October 7th!

Want to learn more about your local Fire Department, then come on out to this year's annual Howard County Fire Expo. There will be informational booths, demonstrations and tons of activities. Demonstrations and activities for the Expo include: an auto rescue, a simulated car fire, fire extinguisher training prop, kids fire course, Haz-Mat display, face painting, food and more. The public is encouraged to attend. Admission is free.

Oakland Mills High School, 9410 Kilimanjaro Rd., Columbia / 11 am to 3 pm / Contact: Department of Fire & Rescue Services, Community Relations Unit, (410) 313-5879

50+EXPO- October 10th !

The popular 50+EXPO, the premiere annual event for the aged 50-and-over population, is back for a 9th consecutive year with old favorites and new features designed to educate, inform and entertain. This not-to-be-missed event includes over 140 exhibitors and targets adults 50 and over and their families. Admission is free. For more information call the 50+ Expo hotline at **(410) 313-6406 or TTY at (410) 313-5927.**

Wilde Lake High School, 5460 Trumpeter Rd., Columbia / 9 am to 4 pm / Contact: Office on Aging, (410) 313-6410

Oakland Mills International Fall Festival- October 13th!

Saturday, October 13th - 11AM –at the **Oakland Mills Village Center** Continuous Entertainment, its an all day event! Great vendors, scrumptious food, non-profit information and more!

Entertainment Schedule – on the Courtyard Stage

11:15- Turner Dean of Magic, Turner Dean of Magic will perform on the Courtyard Stage and stay and perform his magic throughout the entire festival!

12:00- Fun Drum Rhythm Circle

1:00- Chinese Dragon Dance

1:15- The Kinderman

2:00- SALSA Dancing

3:00- Woody Lessauer, Celtic/Folk Music

FREE Shredding Event- October 13th!

This event is open to the public and will feature on site shredding and a chance to win one of six personal shredders and other great prizes. LIMIT two boxes per person. For more info: www.aplfcu.org

Saturday, October 13th, 9:00 a.m. – noon./ APLFCU's McGraw Road Branch, 8870 McGraw Road.

Help Save Lives!- Blood Drive October 20th!

The American Red Cross will be holding a blood drive at The Owen Brown Interfaith Center. An optional registration in the National Marrow Donor Program will be provided. You may register by emailing uucbblooddrive@comcast.net or by calling **410-381-4546**. Walk-ins are accepted too. Homemade goodies will be served! Owen Brown Interfaith Center/ 7246 Cradlerock Way/ Saturday, October 20th, 2007/ 7:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Sign Up For the “Greenovation”: Intro. To Green Home Renovations

On **Saturday, October, 20th**, The Green Building Institute will hold a workshop which will establish a basic understanding of conducting

green home renovations through instructions of the basics using case studies in a charrette design format to understand real life approaches to develop real life solutions. The workshop will start with a discussion of Green Renovation Principles including:

Green Renovation Principles

1. Orientation Analysis
2. Connection to Site
3. Structural Analysis
4. Heat and Cooling Analysis
5. Renewable Resources
6. Selection of Materials

The seminar will be held at the Green Building Institute in The Enviro-Center at 7761 Waterloo Road) (Rte. 175), Jessup, Maryland 20794. Registration, check-in, and EnviroCenter Tour will begin at 8:30 a.m.-9:15 a.m. The seminar modules will begin at 9:15 a.m. and continue to 4:15 p.m. (with lunch).

For more information and registration please visit www.greenbuildinginstitute.org or you may call the institute at 443-733-1234.

Environmental Course Offered for Low- to Moderate-Income Residents- December 1st!

Going environmentally friendly doesn't have to mean spending hundreds on solar panels and a green roof.

The Green Building Institute in Jessup is reaching out to low- and moderate-income Howard residents for a free course on how to save with environmentally friendly practices.

"This class is providing ways they can be part of the discussion," said Hannah Wood, executive director of the institute, an educational nonprofit.

The class, scheduled for December, is free for eligible residents, in part because of a \$3,000 grant from the Columbia Foundation. Classes usually cost \$15 to \$75.

“They’re teaching ways in which everyone can be involved, no matter your income level or socioeconomic status,” said Candace Dodson Reed, Columbia Foundation’s associate director.

It’s the “little steps,” Wood said, that can help residents save money. Compact florescent light bulbs, for example, may cost several extra dollars in the beginning but can save money in energy costs, she said.

There is space for 40 residents to take the class, and the group wants people to sign up this summer so it can plan the course.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

To take the free Go Green, Save Green course, participants must:

- Live in Howard County
- Make \$25,000 or less for an individual or \$50,000 or less for families

To sign up, call **443-733-1234** or visit **greenbuildinginstitute.org**.

IF YOU GO

What: Go Green, Save Green course

When: 8:30 a.m. to noon Dec. 1

Where: Green Building Institute at the EnviroCenter, 7761 Waterloo Road, Jessup

NEIGHBOR RIDE- Looking for Spanish and Korean Speaking Volunteers!

Neighbor Ride, a volunteer-based supplemental transportation program, helps residents age 60 and over maintain a good quality of life by providing friendly and reliable door-to-door transportation for medical appointments, religious services, educational pursuits, recreational and social events, exercise classes, and other day-to-day activities.

* Neighbor Ride is looking for Spanish and Korean speaking volunteers to become drivers who can converse with bi-lingual riders.

For more information and to register for a volunteer orientation, contact Rosemary Noble at 410-884-RIDE, volunteer@neighborride.org or visit their website at <http://www.neighborride.org/>

US Route 1 State Highway Meeting Materials Now Available

Following up on the June 18 and June 20 public meetings, the PowerPoint presentation and maps displayed at the meetings are now posted on Howard County's Web site at <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DPZ/us1shastrategy.htm>

Maryland State Highway Administration's (SHA) consultants, Kittelson and Associates, in partnership with Howard County held public informational meetings on SHA's Route 1 Corridor Improvement Strategy. The strategy's focus is transportation improvements to support Howard County's vision for revitalization of the Route 1 corridor.

We hope these materials will help you in understanding the issues and recommendations presented by SHA's consultants so far.

If you have questions you may contact **Dace Blaumanis** at **410-313-4324** or by email dblaumanis@howardcountymd.gov